

Rural Jobs & Economic Growth Roundtable

Jackson, Tennessee

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The Impact of Manufacturing

From the Alliance for American Manufacturing

"Each manufacturing job supports as many as four other jobs, providing a boost to local economies. For example, every 100 steel or every 100 auto jobs create between 400 and 500 new jobs in the rest of the economy"

Why West Tennessee?

- ◆ Right to Work State
- ◆ Centrally located nationally
- ◆ Great weather
- ◆ Low cost of living
- ◆ Great transportation network
- ◆ Ranked very high (2nd in 2008) as having the best business climate
- ◆ Low taxes and very good tax incentives

Best Location in the Nation



Workforce Readiness

- ◆ Regardless if it is ACT Career Readiness Certificate testing, Aptitude testing, Maintenance testing, all the results tell us the same thing
- ◆ The existing workforce lacks basic skills in math, written and verbal communication and applied skills such as problem solving, critical thinking, and innovation
- ◆ The question is “What do we do about it?”

Economic Development

- What will set us apart from the competition?
- Is bringing in a new company the only way to achieve economic growth?
- We are doing all these great things – What is missing?
- What is the most important resource that a company needs to be successful?

GOOD EMPLOYEES!

What if...

- ◆ What if there was pool of trained people for industry to draw from?
- ◆ Wouldn't that be an incentive for a company to locate here?
- ◆ Wouldn't that help companies already here to grow and prosper?
- ◆ Nearly 2/3 of new jobs come from existing industry

RURAL JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

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